

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /071 W
-----120472 290328Z /65

R 281842Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1112
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY DACCA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 08933

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC
SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION APPROVES GSP PROPOSAL FOR 1978

REF: BRUSSELS 6878

1. EC COMMISSION APPROVED ON JULY 20 A PROPOSAL WHICH WILL NEED TO BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS LATER THIS YEAR CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF THE EC'S SYSTEM OF GENERALIZED PREFERENCES FOR 1978. AS ANTICIPATED, CHANGES IN THE GSP FOR 1978 ARE FEW IN COMPARISON WITH EARLIER YEARS. THE EC ESTIMATES THAT, IF APPROVED, POTENTIAL TRADE COVERAGE WOULD GROW FROM 6.2 BILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT UNDER THE 1977 PROGRAM TO 6.4 BILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT IN 1978.

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2. ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE CHANGE FROM THE 1977 PROGRAM. 11 NEW PRODUCTS, INCLUDING HORSES FOR MEAT, CERTAIN SHELL FISH VARIETIES AND CERTAIN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES DURING WINTER MONTHS, WOULD BE ADDED. ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, 1974 WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE BASE YEAR FOR THE SYSTEM. GROWTH IN QUANTITATIVE CEILINGS WOULD BE PROVIDED BY AN ADDITIONAL

CALCULATION, EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN SENSITIVE PRODUCTS INCLUDING STEEL, PETROLEUM, TEXTILES, FOOTWEAR AND PLYWOOD WHERE PRESENT CEILINGS WOULD BE MAINTAINED.

3. THE PROPOSAL WOULD ALSO EXEMPT LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FROM THE RE-IMPOSITION OF CUSTOMS DUTIES WHEN CEILINGS ARE EXCEEDED. FOR JUTE AND COIR FROM INDIA AND BANGLADESH, A ZERO DUTY WOULD BE INSTITUTED AS OF JANUARY 1, 1978, ADVANCING BY SIX MONTHS A DATE AGREED IN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. AS A SPECIAL GESTURE TO ROMANIA, IN RECOGNITION OF ITS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE, 12 NEW PRODUCTS, INCLUDING CERTAIN CHEMICALS, BALL BEARINGS, AND NITROGEN BASED FERTILIZERS WOULD BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF PRODUCTS FOR WHICH ROMANIA IS ELIGIBLE FOR GSP.

4. THE COMMISSION ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO ENABLE BENEFITING COUNTRIES TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF ITS GSP, INCLUDING BY DISTRIBUTION OF A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO USING THE SYSTEM AND BY ORGANIZING INFORMATION SEMINARS IN LDCS. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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